

CONGRESS HAS MUCH TO DO
AN IMPORTANT SESSION WILL BEGIN
TWO WEEKS FROM TO-DAY.

HAWAIIAN ANNEXATION AND THE CURRENCY
PROBLEM LIKELY TO COME TO THE FRONT
EARLY--BANKRUPTCY, IMMIGRATION AND
THE NORTHERN BOUNDARY QUESTION

CALLING FOR ACTION.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Washington, Nov. 21.—When the LVth Congress reassembles, two weeks from to-morrow both branches will be ready for business, and will find a good deal of work cut out for them to do. Senators and Representatives have all ready begun to arrive, but they will not be numerous until after Thanksgiving Day. Some of those who are on the ground have ventured to express opinions both as to the probable duration of the coming session and what is likely to be accomplished, and what left undone. As to the former question, a majority predict an unusually short session, and an adjournment as early as May, but, in view of the number and variety of important matters which will be pressed for consideration, this prediction will be likely to fail. As to what can or will be accomplished in the way of legislation, there is a wider diversity of opinion.

Of course, there are, as usual, several measures which, in the opinion of members of the Senate and House of Representatives, will take precedence of all others, although there is no

means a unanimity of opinion as to what those measures will be, with perhaps two or three exceptions. One of the exceptions is the subject of Hawaiian annexation, which seems likely to come to the front early in the session. As the information that has been received here by the friends of annexation indicates favorably as well as speedy action.

PROSPECTS OF CURRENCY REFORM.

Another exception is the currency question, including that of the coinage standard. Scores of bills relating to both subjects were introduced at the special session; the Secretary of the Treasury will propose a plan for currency and banking reform in his annual report, and it is expected that a somewhat different plan will be proposed by the Commission of which ex-Senator Edmunds is the head, and which has been meeting in Washington at intervals for some weeks past. It does not now seem probable that either of the two latter plans will be acceptable to a majority of Congress. As everybody knows there is not a sound-money majority in the Senate, while on the coinage question as a separate proposition there is a majority in favor of the free and unlimited coinage of silver by the

United States on an independent basis. In the House of Representatives, on the other hand, there is a strong sound-money majority and there is an equally strong majority against silver monometallism. But there are also wide divergences of opinion among the sound-money members as to what body respecting currency reform, both as to its immediate and urgent necessity and to its

For example, it does not seem at all probable that a proposition to retire the greenback would command a majority. It may be remembered that the House Committee on Banking

and currency in the last Congress found it unable to agree on any measure whatever currency reform, although twelve of the seventeen members were sound-money men. The committee in this Congress also consists of twelve sound-money men, four Democrats and

one silver man. Mr. Walker, of Massachusetts, is again chairman, and with him are associated Messrs. Brodus, Johnson, of Indiana; V. Voorhis, McCleary, Fowler, Spalding and Hewitt (Republicans); Cox (Democrat), and Newland (silver), who were members of the committee in the last Congress, and all of whom have independent and decided views on the currency question—most of them having introduced bills on the subject. The new members are Messrs. Southwick and Mitchell, of New-York; Prince of Illinois, and Capron, of Rhode Island (Republican); and Messrs. ... and ...

(Democrats), a majority of whom have also introduced currency bills and paid considerable attention to the subject of currency reform. It is pretty safe to say that none of the old members have materially modified their views on the subject during the last two years, and this be true the prospect that the committee will agree on any measure of currency reform does not appear exceedingly bright at this time.

Senator Morrill, the venerable chairman of the

Finance Committee, is among those who had arrived. When asked what he thought of the prospect of financial or currency legislation, he declined to commit himself, beyond expressing the opinion that the session would be a quiet one and that the indications were not especially favorable to financial legislation.

Senator Carter said emphatically that there would be no abatement in the efforts of the Republican party to secure an international agreement, but he was not at liberty to divulge the plans of the American Commission so far as

was familiar with them. He said he had no doubt of the perfect good faith of the Administration in the matter, and he was still hopeful

BANKRUPTCY AND IMMIGRATION.

A subject which will probably be pushed to the front in the House of Representatives early in the session is that of a law to regulate proceedings in bankruptcy. There is a strong and active sentiment, especially among Representatives from the West and South, in favor of such legislation. The Senate passed a bill at the

special session which will probably be reported to the House from the Judiciary Committee early in the year, with amendments. In present form the measure is not favorably regarded by many members who, nevertheless might vote for it rather than not have any law on the subject passed.

Another measure which will be vigorously pressed is that to amend the law restricting immigration. It will be remembered that Pres-

The annexation of Hawaii, if accomplished, will give greater prominence than ever in Congress to the demand for a submarine cable.

tween the Pacific Coast and the Sandwich Islands. Bills to carry out the project were favorably reported from committees in both branches of the last Congress, and were reintroduced at the special session. If Hawaii

comes a portion of the United States, such legislation will be necessary at an early day, and is probable that the mere fact of annexation will induce private capital to engage in the cable enterprise on more favorable conditions than have been heretofore proposed.

Canada which have been submitted by and on behalf of the Dominion, it has become evident that the settlement of the northern boundary question, which has been in part an open one for more than a century, cannot much longer be safely delayed. That question, so far as